



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

Walla Walla District  
Public Affairs Office

# News Release

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## Corps soliciting comments on dredging environmental assessment

**Walla Walla, Wash.** -- Officials from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Walla Walla District planning branch are soliciting comments on the environmental assessment for upcoming dredging work. The Corps has presented a draft finding of no significant impact for proposed dredging in the Clearwater, lower Snake and mid-Columbia rivers between Dec. 15, 2000 and March 1, 2001.

The environmental assessment considers the effects of proposed interim navigation and maintenance dredging and dredged material disposal to be performed by the District. The purpose of the dredging is to restore the authorized depth of navigation channel, remove sediment from port areas, and provides for recreational use and wildlife habitat.

This environmental assessment addresses the dredging and disposal actions that would take place in the District the next three years, or until the Corps' Dredged Material Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement is completed and in effect. The dredged material management plan is evaluating a 20-year period of dredging in the District.

Comments on the document should be provided no later than Nov. 13 to Sandy Simmons, Environmental Compliance Section, USACE, Walla Walla District, 201 N. Third Avenue, Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876.

The State of Washington Department of Ecology is also reviewing the Corps' dredging project for compliance with state and federal water pollution control laws. Any person desiring to present views pertaining to the project may do so by providing written comments, no later than Nov. 13, to the Permit Coordination Unit, Department of Ecology, P.O. Box 47703, Olympia, WA 98504-7703.

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For more information, contact Simmons at (509) 527-7265. The environmental assessment is available on the Walla Walla District web site at [www.nww.usace.army.mil](http://www.nww.usace.army.mil).

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